

5 May 1952

Mr. Walter S. Hanchett

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Dear Mr. Hanchett:

General Walter B. Smith has asked me to acknowledge your letter of April 30, 1952, concerning the Department of State's Russian-language publication, Amerika. General Smith has indicated that he cannot add to his evaluation of this publication as noted in his book; however, I suggest that if you desire further information on Amerika as a whole you contact Mr. A. Sidney Buford, III, Director, Office of Libraries for Intelligence Acquisition, Department of State, Washington 25, D. C., whom I am sure can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Executive Assistant
to the Director

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April 30, 1952

Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

I am doing a research project on the Department of State's Russian-language publication, Amerika. Your three years' service as ambassador to Russia and your keen comments on conditions there make you a particularly valuable observer. The paragraphs concerning Amerika in your book have been most helpful. I will appreciate any additional evaluation of the magazine's effectiveness--in regard to both content and circulation--as an instrument of American influence in Russia that you might care to make. I am particularly interested in knowing how Amerika was distributed during your stay in Russia. Was it generally available on the newsstands, or did it circulate almost solely within the Soviet bureaucracy?

Thank you very much for any time you may find it possible to give to my queries.

Yours truly,



Walter S. Hanchett
Graduate Student
Department of History
University of Chicago

Walter S. Hanchett

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Adm

Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street
Washington 25, D. C.

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